

US Serial No. 10/644,348  
Page 2 of 13

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2, 5, and 18.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 8 through 13, 15 through 17, and 19 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for laser annealing a part comprising the steps of:  
providing automated tooling;  
providing a laser;  
providing a ~~metal part~~ an aluminum sheet panel having an upstanding flange with a radial bend therebetween to be annealed;  
moving either one of the laser or ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel by the automated tooling relative to a stationary one of the other laser or ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel; and;  
supplying power to the laser to heat a portion of the ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel to a predetermined temperature to anneal the portion of the ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel as the laser and ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel move relative to each other.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 2 1 wherein said step of providing the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel comprises providing a ~~metal~~ an aluminum sheet panel having a thickness of about one millimeter to about three millimeters.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 2 1 wherein said step of providing the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel comprises providing a ~~metal~~ an aluminum sheet panel having radial bend of about five millimeters.

5. (CANCELED)

US Serial No. 10/644,348

Page 3 of 13

6. (ORIGINAL) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of providing the automated tooling comprises providing a robot with a movable arm.

7. (ORIGINAL) A method as set forth in claim 6 including the step of attaching the laser to the movable arm.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the laser relative to the stationary ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 6 including the step of attaching the ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel to the movable arm.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the ~~metal part~~ aluminum sheet panel relative to the stationary laser.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for laser annealing a part comprising the steps of:

providing a robot having a movable arm;

providing a laser;

providing a ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel having an upstanding flange with a radial bend to be annealed;

moving either one of the laser or ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel by the movable arm of the robot relative to a stationary one of the other laser or ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel; and;

supplying power to the laser to heat the radial bend of the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel to a predetermined temperature to anneal the radial bend of the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel as the laser and ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel move relative to each other.

US Serial No. 10/644,348

Page 4 of 13

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 11 wherein said step of providing the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel comprises providing a ~~metal~~ an aluminum sheet panel having a thickness of about one millimeter to about three millimeters.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 11 wherein said step of providing the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel comprises providing a ~~metal~~ an aluminum sheet panel having the upstanding flange of about 10.0 millimeters and the radial bend of about 5.0 millimeters.

14. (ORIGINAL) A method as set forth in claim 11 including the step of attaching the laser to the movable arm.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 14 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the laser relative to the stationary ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 11 including the step of attaching the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel to the movable arm.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as set forth in claim 16 wherein said step of moving comprises moving the movable arm and the ~~metal~~ aluminum sheet panel relative to the stationary laser.

18. (CANCELED)

US Serial No. 10/644,348

Page 5 of 13

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for laser annealing a sheet panel comprising the steps of:

providing a robot having a movable arm;

providing a laser;

providing an aluminum sheet panel having an upstanding flange with a radial bend to be annealed;

attaching either one of the laser or aluminum sheet to the movable arm of the robot and moving the attached laser or aluminum sheet panel relative to a stationary one of the other laser or aluminum sheet panel; and

supplying power to the laser to heat the radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel to a predetermined temperature to anneal the radial bend of the aluminum sheet panel as the laser and aluminum sheet panel move relative to each other.